

## **Historic, archived document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



Revised  
1-9-60  
A 22572

SEP - 1960

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

# STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. D. A.

Washington, D. C.

SS-209

April 20, 1960

## Winter Wheat Tops Last Year 6 Percent

Winter wheat production was forecast by the Crop Reporting Board as of April 1 at 977 million bushels. This is 51 million bushels above the December 1 forecast and tops the 1959 crop by 6 percent. Increases since December have been largely confined to the Central and Southern Great Plains; reductions are indicated in the South Atlantic and some of the South Central States.

Indicated yield of winter wheat, at 22 bushels per seeded acre, is second only to the 1958 record of 26.9 bushels, and is well above the average of 17 bushels.

Prolonged cold weather in March delayed early spring growth of winter wheat, but the accompanying snow protected the crop and enhanced the moisture supply . . . winter losses have been relatively light and insects and disease to April 1 had made no serious threats . . . abandonment and diversion to other uses is indicated at only 3.2 million acres compared with 4.1 million acres last year.

## Rye Condition Better Than a Year Ago

Rye condition, 86 percent of normal on April 1, was 2 points above that of a year ago.

## Pasture Prospects About Average

Pasture condition, at 79 percent of normal, was about average for April 1 though slightly below last year.

## Smaller Food Grain Stocks, More Feed Grains

Food grain stocks on farms April 1, were 28 percent less than a year earlier and 6 percent below average. Wheat stocks were down over a fourth from a year ago and there was only about half as much rye as a year earlier.

Tonnage of feed grains stored on farms April 1 was up from last year by 7 percent and nearly a third above average. Corn stocks reached a new high of 2.1 billion bushels, 15 percent above the record holdings last year. Sorghum grain stocks were about 9 percent above a year earlier and a record for the date. Oats and barley stocks were each about a fourth below a year ago.

## Record Stocks of Soybeans, Less Flaxseed

Soybeans stored on farms April 1 were an all-time record, 14 percent more than last year and double the 10-year average. Flaxseed stored on farms was only two-fifths as large as a year earlier, and about half the 10-year average.

## Stocks on Farms, April 1, Itemized

Wheat stocks on farms totaled 206 million bushels, down 27 percent from last year and 6 percent below average.

Corn stocks, estimated at 2.1 billion bushels were up from a year ago by 15 percent.

Oats stocked were estimated at 427 million bushels, down from a year ago by 27 percent and 14 percent below average.

Barley stocks, at 121 million bushels, were down from last year's record by 22 percent, but were about a fourth above average.

Rye stocks were estimated at 5 million bushels, about half as much as a year earlier and a tenth below average stocks.

Flaxseed stocks were 5.6 million bushels, down more than 50 percent from last year, and only a little over half the average.

Soybean stocks, at 143 million bushels, were up from a year ago by 14 percent.

Sorghum grain stocks totaled 109 million bushels, up 9 percent from 1959.

## Smaller Spring Vegetable Total

Production of spring vegetables is expected to be down from last year by 5 percent and about 2 percent below average. Substantially less than last year are tomatoes and lettuce; smaller crops also of broccoli, cabbage, peas, asparagus, beets, cucumbers, and carrots. Expected increases over last year include celery, onions, and snap beans, with smaller increases in peppers, cauliflower, sweet corn, spinach, egg plant, and shallots.

## Slightly Larger Acreage for Processing

Acreage of seven vegetables for commercial processing is indicated about 2 percent more

## Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average Prices received by farmers		Effective parity prices
	Feb. 15 1960	Mar. 15 1960	Based on data for Mar. 1960
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.) ..... ct.	28.08	28.23	38.76
Wheat (bu.) ..... dol.	1.80	1.82	2.38
Rice (100 lb.) ..... dol.	4.83	4.82	5.94
Corn (bu.) ..... dol.	.995	.999	1.64
Peanuts (lb.) ..... ct.	10.9	10.8	12.9
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Milkfat in cream (lb) ..... ct.	59.2	58.9	74.1
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.) ..... dol.	4.27	<sup>1</sup> 4.15	5.01
Wool (lb.) ..... ct.	<sup>2</sup> 42.8	<sup>2</sup> 43.2	74.4
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.) ..... dol.	.860	.839	1.27
Cottonseed (ton) ..... dol.	39.60	39.80	67.20
Flaxseed (bu.) ..... dol.	3.00	2.81	3.84
Hay, baled (ton) ..... dol.	22.50	22.90	25.00
Oats (bu.) ..... dol.	.678	.676	.843
Potatoes (cwt.) ..... dol.	2.13	2.65	2.34
Rye (bu.) ..... dol.	.944	.883	1.49
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.) ..... dol.	1.53	1.53	2.50
Soybeans (bu.) ..... dol.	1.99	1.99	2.92
Sweetpotatoes (cwt.) ..... dol.	3.35	3.46	5.52
Oranges, on tree (box) ..... dol.	2.31	2.52	2.14
Apples, for fresh use (bu.) ..... dol.	2.16	2.19	2.49
Beef cattle (100 lb.) ..... dol.	20.60	21.60	23.80
Calves (100 lb.) ..... dol.	24.70	25.10	26.20
Hogs (100 lb.) ..... dol.	13.00	15.10	21.40
Lambs (100 lb.) ..... dol.	18.60	20.30	25.60
Chickens, all (lb.) ..... ct.	16.9	17.5	25.8
Eggs (dozen) ..... ct.	28.9	32.3	46.5

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary.

<sup>2</sup> Does not include incentive payment to bring season average return to 62 cents per pound.

than last year. Acreage increases include green lima beans, up 15 percent; snap beans, 6 percent; contract cabbage for Kraut, 14 percent; green peas, 5 percent. Reductions in acreage from last year are sweet corn, down 3 percent, winter and early spring spinach, 7 percent and tomatoes, 1 percent.

### Grapefruit, Smaller Crop; More Lemons

Production of grapefruit, at 41.6 million boxes, is 5 percent less than last year's crop and 3 percent below average. Only Texas and Arizona show more grapefruit than last year. By April 1, three-fourths of the U. S. crop had been harvested, slightly more than usual.

Lemon crop, at 17.9 million boxes, is 3 percent larger than last year. About 46 percent of the crop had been harvested by April 1.

### Orange Crop About Same as Last Year

The orange crop (1959-60 season) is estimated at 130 million boxes, only a little larger than

### Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

Item	1959		1960		
	March	Yr.	Jan.	Feb.	March
	<i>Mil.</i>	<i>Mil.</i>	<i>Mil.</i>	<i>Mil.</i>	<i>Mil.</i>
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) <sup>1</sup> .....	58.6	59.7	59.4	59.9	59.7
Farm employment .....	6.5	7.4	5.0	5.3	6.0
Family .....	5.1	5.5	4.1	4.3	4.8
Hired .....	1.4	1.9	1.0	1.0	1.2
Index numbers (1947-49 = 100)					
Industrial production <sup>2</sup> .....	157	159	168	166	165
Total personal income payments <sup>3</sup> .....	185	187	193	193	-
Weekly factory earnings <sup>4</sup> .....	165	167	176	174	172
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker <sup>4</sup> .....	168	169	174	172	171
Wholesale prices, all commodities <sup>4</sup> .....	120	120	119	119	120
Farm commodities .....	91	89	86	87	90
Food, processed .....	107	107	106	106	107
Consumer price index <sup>4</sup> .....	124	125	125	126	-
Food .....	118	118	118	117	-
Index numbers (1910-14 = 100)					
Prices received by farmers .....	244	240	231	233	240
Crops .....	220	221	219	219	222
Food grains .....	205	202	206	208	210
Feed grains and hay .....	155	156	151	153	153
Cotton .....	254	264	248	237	238
Tobacco .....	505	504	486	493	493
Oil bearing crops .....	223	219	216	216	215
Fruit .....	218	214	202	222	228
Vegetables .....	264	241	264	250	251
Livestock and products .....	264	255	242	244	256
Meat animals .....	327	312	278	286	307
Dairy products .....	249	254	266	260	254
Poultry and eggs .....	154	142	144	142	153
Prices paid by farmers .....					
All commodities .....	275	275	275	276	276
Used in living .....	287	289	290	289	290
Used in production .....	267	266	265	266	267
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index) .....	297	298	299	299	300
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted ..	610	612	632	632	632
Parity ratio (prices received to parity index) .....	82	80	77	78	80

<sup>1</sup> Bureau of the Census.  
<sup>2</sup> Federal Reserve Board.

<sup>3</sup> Department of Commerce.  
<sup>4</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics.

last year but 9 percent above average. About 56 percent of the crop had been harvested by April 1 compared with 54 percent last year. Early, Midseason and Navel oranges are estimated at 65.2 million boxes, 1 percent less than last year and 7 percent above average (practically all of these have been harvested). The Valencia crop, at 64.4 million boxes, is up from last season by 2 percent and is 11 percent above average.

### Good Prospects for Peaches

Peach prospects are good in all Southern States. Condition April 1 in these States, at 84 percent, is the same as a year ago but sharply above average.

### More Spring Potatoes than Last Year

The early spring potato crop is forecast at 3,432,000 hundredweight, 9 percent above the 1959 production, but 2 percent below the 10-year average of 3,490,000 cwt.

For the late spring crop, acreage for harvest is placed at 153,000 acres, 11 percent above the acreage harvested in 1959.

### Slightly Higher Milk Output

Milk produced in March totaled 10.9 billion pounds, up 1 percent from a year ago and 7 per-

### Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	Jan.-Feb. 1959	Jan.-Feb. 1960
<u>Dairy Production</u>			
Milk .....	Bil. lb.	<sup>1</sup> 30.0	<sup>1</sup> 30.4
Evaporated whole milk .....	Mil. lb.	284.4	269.8
Dry Nonfat milk solids (for human food) .....	Mil. lb.	270.7	305.3
Butter, creamery .....	Mil. lb.	224.5	238.9
Cheese, American .....	Mil. lb.	129.8	130.0
Ice cream .....	Mil. gal.	88.3	93.1
<u>Poultry Production</u>			
Eggs .....	Billions	<sup>1</sup> 16.5	<sup>1</sup> 16.0
Poultry meat <sup>2</sup> .....	Mil. lb.	748	781
Canned poultry .....	Mil. lb.	43.5	50.0
Liquid egg .....	Mil. lb.	94.0	104.7
Dried egg (egg solids) .....	Mil. lb.	8.3	8.3
Frozen egg .....	Mil. lb.	52.7	68.0
Chicks hatched, total <sup>3</sup> .....	Millions	<sup>1</sup> 702.7	<sup>1</sup> 631.4
Chicks hatched, broiler <sup>3</sup> .....	Millions	<sup>1</sup> 487.7	<sup>1</sup> 496.6
Poult hatched <sup>3</sup> .....			
Heavy breeds .....	Millions	<sup>1</sup> 18.2	<sup>1</sup> 23.5
Light breeds .....	Millions	<sup>1</sup> 4.7	<sup>1</sup> 2.3
<u>Meat Production<sup>2</sup></u> (dressed weight)			
Beef .....	Mil. lb.	2,073	2,278
Veal .....	Mil. lb.	146	150
Pork .....	Mil. lb.	1,872	1,996
Lamb and mutton .....	Mil. lb.	137	128
Total red meat .....	Mil. lb.	4,228	4,552
<u>Slaughter<sup>2</sup></u>			
Cattle .....	1,000 head	3,532	3,889
Calves .....	1,000 head	1,277	1,258
Hogs .....	1,000 head	13,745	14,788
Sheep and lambs .....	1,000 head	2,712	2,572

<sup>1</sup> January-March.

<sup>2</sup> Commercial; excludes farm slaughter.

<sup>3</sup> By commercial hatcheries.



cent above average. The January-through-March total was 30.4 billion pounds, compared with 30.0 billion for the same period last year.

### Egg Production Down from a Year Ago

March egg production, at 5,543 million eggs, was 7 percent less than in March 1959. Production January through March totaled 15,969 million eggs, 3 percent less than in the same period last year. The number of layers April 1 totaled 298,309,000, down 4 percent from last year and the lowest number for the date since 1938.

### Feeding Less Favorable, Except Broilers and Turkeys

The mid-March egg-feed and farm chicken-feed price ratios were less favorable to producers than a year earlier. The broiler-feed and turkey-feed ratios were more favorable.

The cost of the farm poultry ration in mid-March averaged \$3.34 per 100 pounds, down 6 cents from a year earlier. The average cost of laying mash was \$4.34 per 100 pounds, compared with \$4.49 in March, 1959; broiler growing mash was \$4.68 per 100 pounds, compared with \$4.90 on March 15, 1959; and turkey growing mash was \$4.66, compared with \$4.92 a year earlier.

### More Cattle on Feed

Cattle and calves in 21 States April 1 totaled 6.4 million head compared to 5.9 million head a year earlier (an 8 percent increase). The 21 States are those feeding States for which comparable 1959 data are available. Since January 1, this year, the number on feed in these 21 States has declined 7 percent, compared to a 6 percent decline during the same period in 1959.

The total on feed in 26 major feeding States on April 1 was 6.7 million head. For these States no data is available for comparison a year ago but these same States had 7.2 million on feed in Jan. 1, 1960 and 5.0 million on feed Oct. 1, 1959.

### Increases in West and North Central States

On feed in the North Central States April 1 were nearly 4.9 million head of cattle and calves, up 6 percent from the 4.6 million a year earlier. Iowa, the leading State, was up 11 percent. Nebraska, the second leading State, was down 1 percent.

In 6 Western States (Montana, Idaho, Colorado, Arizona, Utah, and California) the number of cattle and calves on feed totaled 1.3 million head, up 17 percent from April 1, 1959. California, the leading State in the West, was up 34 percent and Colorado, the second ranking Western State, was 7 percent higher than a year earlier.

### Cattle on Feed by Weight

A breakdown of the April 1 numbers on feed in 21 States by weight groups indicates an increase in all groups except the 500-699 pound group, which was down 3 percent from a year earlier. The number weighing less than 500 pounds totaled 453,000 head on April 1, compared to 393,000 head a year earlier; the 500-699 pound group totaled 2,133,000 head, down 64,000 head; and the 700-899 pound group at 1,933,000 head was up

299,000 head. The number weighing over 900 pounds totaled 1,882,000 head--up 167,000 head.

The number weighing less than 500 pounds accounted for 7 percent of the total--the same as last year; those weighing 500-699 pounds, 34 percent this year, and 37 percent last year; and the 700-899 pound group, 30 and 27 percent respectively. Those weighing 900-1099 pounds at 24 percent of the total; and those 1,100 pounds and over at 5 percent of the total were the same proportion of the April 1 inventory as a year earlier.

### CURRENT ESTIMATES

#### Cash Receipts from Farm Marketings, February 1960<sup>1</sup>

State	Livestock and products	Crop	Total
	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>	<i>1,000 dollars</i>
Maine .....	8,149	10,452	18,601
New Hampshire .....	4,033	809	4,842
Vermont .....	8,722	608	9,330
Massachusetts .....	8,901	3,174	12,075
Rhode Island .....	1,149	492	1,641
Connecticut .....	8,175	4,598	12,773
New York .....	46,734	13,388	60,122
New Jersey .....	13,244	4,178	17,422
Pennsylvania .....	44,602	13,855	58,457
Ohio .....	47,381	17,375	64,756
Indiana .....	53,561	28,362	81,923
Illinois .....	88,227	66,076	154,303
Michigan .....	29,584	15,342	44,926
Wisconsin .....	80,388	8,535	88,923
Minnesota .....	82,131	24,879	107,010
Iowa .....	144,456	55,702	200,158
Missouri .....	50,469	12,323	62,792
North Dakota .....	13,097	16,202	29,299
South Dakota .....	33,425	5,777	39,202
Nebraska .....	53,911	38,502	92,413
Kansas .....	39,867	30,809	70,676
Delaware .....	5,053	1,130	6,183
Maryland .....	13,968	2,662	16,630
Virginia .....	15,144	6,625	21,769
West Virginia .....	5,236	1,369	6,605
North Carolina .....	19,037	10,317	29,354
South Carolina .....	8,300	5,862	14,162
Georgia .....	27,766	9,710	37,476
Florida .....	16,243	64,523	80,766
Kentucky .....	18,423	6,529	24,952
Tennessee .....	16,613	8,439	25,052
Alabama .....	20,928	4,971	25,899
Mississippi .....	17,879	12,964	30,843
Arkansas .....	14,996	18,099	33,095
Louisiana .....	11,100	4,425	15,525
Oklahoma .....	20,002	5,621	25,623
Texas .....	58,051	28,657	86,708
Montana .....	12,663	9,777	22,440
Idaho .....	14,220	15,058	29,278
Wyoming .....	4,209	1,147	5,356
Colorado .....	23,303	11,961	35,264
New Mexico .....	4,913	6,316	11,229
Arizona .....	11,236	23,109	34,345
Utah .....	8,712	1,600 <sup>1</sup>	10,312
Nevada .....	3,349	828	4,177
Washington .....	16,541	14,003	30,544
Oregon .....	16,286	6,790	23,076
California .....	79,942	73,820	153,762
United States .....	1,344,319	727,750	2,072,069

<sup>1</sup> All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

## Cash Receipts from Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States<sup>1</sup>

	February 1960	March 1960
<b>CASH RECEIPTS:</b>		
Total marketings and CCC loans <sup>2</sup> .....	<i>Mil. dol.</i> 2,072	<i>Mil. dol.</i> 2,100
Livestock and products .....	1,344	1,500
Meat animals .....	750	
Dairy products .....	368	
Poultry and eggs .....	200	
Other .....	26	
Crops .....	728	600
Food grains .....	74	
Feed crops .....	252	
Cotton (lint and seed) .....	81	
Oil-bearing crops .....	49	
Tobacco .....	15	
Vegetables .....	95	
Fruits and tree nuts .....	88	
Other .....	74	
Government payments .....	34	
Grand total .....	2,106	
	1947-49 = 100	
<b>VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:</b>		
All commodities .....	101	96
Livestock and products .....	118	128
Crops .....	78	54

<sup>1</sup> For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation. <sup>2</sup> Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.

### Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's  
Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

Year and month	Retail cost <sup>1</sup>	Farm value <sup>2</sup>	Farm-retail spread	Farmer's share
1959 average .....	1,040	399	641	38%
1959 Feb. ....	1,042	408	634	39%
1960 Jan. ....	1,030	386	644	38%
1960 Feb. ....	1,028	393	635	38%

<sup>1</sup> Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per urban wage-earner and clerical-worker family in 1952, calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

<sup>2</sup> Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

Reports and publications issued regularly by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service are listed in a new booklet entitled "Periodic Reports of the Agricultural Marketing Service". If you want a free copy, address Marketing Information Division, AMS, USDA, Washington 25, D. C.

### Fed Cattle Marketings Indicated Higher

Cattle feeders in 21 States expect to market 53 percent (3,366,000 head) of the April 1, 1960 inventory during April, May and June. If intentions are carried out marketings for this quarter would be 19 percent above the number marketed from the April 1 inventory during April, May and June 1959. Feeders in the 26 States report marketing intentions of 3,532,000 head during the April-June period, 53 percent of the April 1 inventory. No comparable marketing data are available for these 26 States during the same three months of 1959.

In 1959, actual marketings April-June in the 21 States were 6 percent more than intended April 1. In 1956, 1957 and 1958, marketings were also 6 percent above intentions for the same quarterly period, although only 13 States were covered in these earlier years.

### Weather a Factor in Lower Farm Employment

The 6 million persons at work on farms in late March were fewer than a year earlier by 8 percent. Cold weather and wet soils mainly were responsible for the decrease. Farm family workers, at 4.8 millions, were down 7 percent; hired workers, at 1.2 millions, down 9 percent from a year earlier.

### Farm Wage Rates Record High

Hired farm workers April 1 were being paid at higher cash wage rates than in any other year. U. S. average composite rate per hour was slightly over 75 cents--nearly 5 percent higher than a year earlier. For other categories of farm wage rates, see Farm Labor Report, issued April 11 by the Crop Reporting Board, AMS, USDA, Washington, D. C.